decided to provide funding support to the CGIAR against specific projects to gain a broader and more effective voice in deciding the research agenda of the CGIAR system and to seek answers to problems for which facilities and faculties are limited or need to be developed. After the proposal was placed before the EFC, EFC approved a sum of US$6.00 million to be spent for the purpose during the rest of the 10th Plan period.

(c) to (e) The productivity of two main crops rice and wheat have increased to almost double and four-fold respectively, ever since the introduction of the 'miracle seeds' of rice and wheat, ushering in 'green revolution' in the country. Hybrid of maize, namely, *Shaktiman-I and Shaktiman-2* containing high quantity of *trypotophan* and *lysine* have been developed and released for commercial cultivation. Hybrid rice technology has also been developed with the help of several parental lines and technologies developed by CGIAR. A number of superior varieties of chickpea *(channa)* including superior disease resistant varieties of pearlmillet *(bajra)* and sorghum *(jowar)* have been developed and released for commercial cultivation. Several projects have been undertaken for increasing the productivity and management of fish leading to enhanced fish production and generation of employment. With efficient management of natural resources under watershed management programme, and efficient ground water management and governance as also human resource development in the water management sector, water productivity in river basins have improved benefiting Indian agriculture over the years. Programmes are under process in the area of disease resistance against gastro-intestinal parasitism especially *Haemonchosis* and on control of methane production. These programmes would help in increasing the production and productivity of livestock.

New breeds of cows

†2406. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that new breeds of cows have been developed by undertaking research in various universities of the country;

(b) the names of institutions that have developed these cows during 2002-2005 alongwith the names of their breeds;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether Government have formulated any national level scheme for encouraging the commercial production from these cows; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) No new breeds of cows have been developed between the years 2002—2005.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Rule for fixing MSP of wheat

†2406. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria for fixing Minimum Support Price of Wheat;

(b) the rent per acre of land fixed for Minimum Support Price of Wheat and the expenses supposed to be incurred on diesel, manure, water, seeds, labour etc. for per acre of land;

(c) the basis on which these figures have been fixed;

(d) the steps being taken by Government for providing actual price to the farmers for their crops; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) The Government announces each season Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for major agricultural commodities, including wheat, on the recommendation of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP). While recommending MSPs, CACP keeps in view (i) the need to provide incentive to the producer for adopting improved technology and for developing a production pattern broadly in the light of national requirements; (ii) the need to ensure rational utilization of land, water and other production resources; (iii) the likely effect of the price policy on the rest of the economy, particularly on the cost of living, level of wages, industrial cost structure, etc. and (iv) terms of trade between agricultural sector and non-agricultural sector.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.